

IN THE CLAIMS:

*Please AMEND the claims to read as set forth in the following listing of the claims:*

1. (original) An item of jewelry (1) consisting of a central stone (2) and several peripheral stones (3), characterized in that said stones are arranged on a support (4) comprising a first ring (5) concentric with and connected to a second ring (6) smaller in diameter and greater in height than the first ring (5), said second ring (6) coming to a T-shaped shoulder (8) on its top edge with one side designed to be snapped into a longitudinal groove (9) passing all the way around the circumference of the pavilion (10) of the central stone (2) and its other side snapped into a groove (11) present in each peripheral stone (3), each peripheral stone also being held firmly in its position by a slot (12) formed on the inside of the perimeter of the second ring (6).
2. (original) The item of jewelry (1) as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the table (13) of each peripheral stone (3) and one of the facets (13) of the crown (4) of the octagonal central stone (2) have an identical angle of incidence.
3. (currently amended) The item of jewelry (1) as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that the length of the edge of one of the sides of each of said peripheral stones (3) is identical to the length of the edge of one of the facets (4) on the crown of the central stone (2).
4. (currently amended) The item of jewelry (1) as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the central stone (2) is an octagonal stone with eight trapezoidal stones arranged around it.
5. (currently amended) The item of jewelry as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ in the form of a ring, pendant, earrings, or necklaces.

6. (currently amended) A decorative item comprising an item of jewelry as claimed in claim 1 ~~one of the preceding claims~~.

7. (new) The item of jewelry (1) as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the length of the edge of one of the sides of each of said peripheral stones (3) is identical to the length of the edge of one of the facets (4) on the crown of the central stone (2).

8. (new) The item of jewelry (1) as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the central stone (2) is an octagonal stone with eight trapezoidal stones arranged around it.

9. (new) The item of jewelry (1) as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the central stone (2) is an octagonal stone with eight trapezoidal stones arranged around it.

10. (new) The item of jewelry as claimed in claim 2 in the form of a ring, pendant, earrings, or necklaces.

11. (new) The item of jewelry as claimed in claim 3 in the form of a ring, pendant, earrings, or necklaces.

12. (new) The item of jewelry as claimed in claim 4 in the form of a ring, pendant, earrings, or necklaces.

13. (new) A decorative item comprising an item of jewelry as claimed in claim 2.

14. (new) A decorative item comprising an item of jewelry as claimed in claim 3.

15. (new) A decorative item comprising an item of jewelry as claimed in claim 4.

16. (new) A decorative item comprising an item of jewelry as claimed in claim 5.